

tried my best, and if I failed, I have failed trying to do my best.

Honourable senators opposite will forgive me if I remind them that my great parliamentary hero was and is Sir Winston Churchill, whose printed works and speeches I have read avidly. When Britain was in the most desperate straits in the early part of World War II, he gave this advice to his colleagues, and this is my advice to my colleagues on this side: KBO, keep bugging on. As for my colleagues on the other side, I recall that Sir Winston Churchill in his dotage confessed that he had always been a Liberal. Good advice.

If I have succeeded, I owe it to my late father and the great mentors I have encountered in politics: Mr. Pearson, Mr. Trudeau, Mr. Turner, Mr. Chrétien and Mr. Martin, and, of course, Keith Davey, our former colleague, who taught us all on this side to love the Liberal Party. I will not say goodbye, but au revoir. On January 2, I start my third act. Regretfully, you have not heard the last of me yet. To my wife who might feel trepidation on my return to Toronto: Do not worry. I have lots of new projects that will keep me eternally occupied. All the very best to all of you, Godspeed and thank you so much.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 16, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3326, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

The bill extends unemployment and COBRA benefits, which I have fought for and continue to support.

It also funds a number of employment, medical, and transportation programs that I also support.

Nevertheless, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill because it continues funding for our futile efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, which have already cost our country too much in blood and treasure.

Instead of pursuing military action where there is no military solution, we need a new strategy that relies on the effective tools of what I call smart security.

These tools include diplomacy, humanitarian aid, economic development, education, civil affairs, and better intelligence and police work to search out and capture extremists.

In the case of Afghanistan, for example, a great majority of all further funding should be devoted to these smart security efforts.

Madam Speaker, let's change our strategy before it's too late. We can begin by voting against this bill.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
LEO A DiEGIDIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 19, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Leo A. "Lal" DiEgidio; devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great-great grandfather and dear friend to many. His generosity, concern for others and gift for singing uplifted countless people throughout our community.

Mr. DiEgidio's life was centered on family, faith, hard work and his love of song. For more than forty years, he lifted the spirits of

people of all ages with his beautiful singing voice. Mr. DiEgidio volunteered his time and talents by visiting nursing homes and singing for residents and staff. During many of these visits, he sang with another local celebrity singer, Rocco Scotti. Mr. DiEgidio directed the choir at Gunning Park Golden Age Center in Cleveland, and was a founding member of the Choir at Holy Name Church, where he sang for nearly eighty years. Mr. DiEgidio often sang duets with the late Father John Dalton, whose favorite was "Danny boy." Mr. DiEgidio was also known for his powerful versions of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America."

Mr. DiEgidio lived his life with a spirit of generosity, a compassion for others, and a joy of living. His quick smile easily drew others to him. He was a devoted husband to the late Harriette, and was a devoted father to the late Leo, Ronald and Lalene. Together, Lal and Harriette worked hard to provide a wonderful and loving home for their family. In 1951, he established Lal's Cleaners and Tailors on Garfield Boulevard in the heart of Garfield Heights, Ohio. Now owned by his grandson, the business continues. Mr. DiEgidio was active in the Italian-American community of Garfield Heights. He was a longtime member of the Knights of Columbus Council and the Solon Italian-American Club.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Leo A. "Lal" DiEgidio, whose joyous spirit and love for others will exist forever within the hearts and memories of those who loved and knew him best—his family and friends. His life, framed by his gift of song, compassion for others, devotion to family and commitment to community, will be always celebrated and remembered.